at Dummuriputtu and Mechiliguda on Koraput-Rayagada line under construction.

1 new station at Angul on Talcher-Sambalpur line under construction.

Fixing of handling charges by ports trusts

892. SHRI HASHIM RAZA ALLAHABADI ABDI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Ports Trusts have taken any decision to fix handling charges to solve disputes between shippers and ship owners; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Curbing of pollution at major ports

893. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state

(a) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to curb pollution in major ports;

(b) whether any proposal has already been forwarded to the Bombay Port Authorities to impose a ceiling on the traffic being handled by the port; and

(c) if so, what are the results of the measures taken and whether such measures will be taken by the Port authorities in other major ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) Measures to combat pollution in major ports is a subject of continuing attention and concern of the Central Governmet. A number of measures have already been taken in this connection some of which are given below:—

(1) Crestion of pollution control cells in the major ports.

(2) Inspection of ships and water front areas to ensure that the ships do not create pollution.

(3) The ships are required to comply with MARPOL Regulations.

(4) Checking of emission of smoke from the funel and the accumulation of garabage on the boards.

(5) In case of pollution, oil barriers, oil booms, oil skimmers etc. are deployed.

(6) Prohibition of discharge of oil and objectionable liquids in the dock is enforced.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Question does not arise.

Scarcity of resources in Railways

894. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are facing serious resource constraints during the current plan, resulting in their not achieving the targets; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government to get over the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) There is an overall constraint of resources which is also shared by the Railways. Targets are laid down commensurate with the allocations made. Every effort is made to provide the maximum possible allocation to Railways.

Meeting of Vice-Chancellors of South Zones

895. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a meeting of the Vice-Chancellors of South Zone held in

December, 1987, called for an increase in the Union Government's allocation for education; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and to the other suggestions of the conference, namely, that private sector and philanthropy be encouraged to support higher education by liberalising tax exemption policy of the Government in respect thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Policy on Education-1986 envisages that the investment on education be gradually increased to reach a level of expenditure of 6 per cent of National Income as early as possible. The outlay for education in the VII Plan is being stepped up considerably. While considering the question of mobilising resources for education, the suggestion that liberalised tax exemption policy would encourage support to higher education by the private sector and philanthropy would also be kept in view.

Indian monkeys infected with in AIDS like virus

896. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be plaesed to state:

(a) whether biologists have found Indian monkeys infected with an AIDS like virus called the Simian Immuno deficiency Virus (SIV); and

(b) if so, what are the details of the findings of the biologists in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) and (b) Yes, National Institute of Virology, Pune has reported that Antibodies to Simian immuno deficiency Virus has been detected in some Indian monkeys. Further investigations regarding Simian Immuno deficiency Virus infection in Indian monkeys are on.

Construction of Rail lines by SIDC and by States and Central Government Jointly

897. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some railway lines in the country are being constructed by State Industrial Development Corporations and some jointly by the States and the Central Government and if so, the details of such projects, State-wise and cost-wise;

(b) what are the criteria adopted in such cases by the Railway Board and the guidelines for the agency that carry out the work;

(c) whether State Governments have been sounded to recommend and propose railway projects of their choice and priority, to be considered by Railway Board; and

(d) whether there is any proposal for new railway projects in the joint sector in Gujarat State, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MAHABIR PRASAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The under-mentioned rail lines are presently being constructed at the cost of State Industrial Development Corporations or